# The Last Words of *William Parry* a Lawyer, who Suffered for endeavouring to Depose the Queen's Highneſs, and bring in Q. *Mary*, and her young Son *James*.

## XXVII. *ELIZ.*

*WHereas a Paper hath been for ſome time handed about in* Manuſcript, *pretended to be the Speech of the aboveſaid* William Parry: *This is to inform the Publick, that the ſaid Paper is Spurious and Counterfeit; and that the True Genuine Speech is what is here preſented to the World.*

Mr. Sheriff,

I Shall not trouble you with an Account of the particular Crimes for which I am brought to this untimely End; but only in General deliver Five Principal Cauſes that have, *in ſooth*, drawn ſo juſt a Judgment upon me. Firſt, Diſobedience to my Parents. Secondly, Ill Company. Thirdly, the leaving my lawful Calling to engage in Affairs of State. Fourthly, Bearing falſe Witneſs: And laſtly, my Ingratitude to thoſe that rais'd me.

I ſhall ſay ſomething upon each of theſe by way of Warning to all People, but eſpecially to thoſe who have been my Accomplices; ſeveral of whom do now hear what I ſay.

Firſt, Of my Diſobedience to my Parents, who ſent me to ſtudy the Law, *albeit* I prov'd a graceleſs Youth, given up to all manner of *Naughtineſs*; and in one of my wild Frolicks *beſtſoons* married without their Conſent or Knowledge, and was thereupon left by them to ſhift in the wide World: Where I lived many Years in the loweſt Degree of Miſery and Want, which when attended with Pride, Avarice and Ambition, is the Parent of all Evil.

My Wants engaged me in ill Company, and taught me to aſſociate with ſuch who were ſecret Enemies to the Queen's Highneſs; particularly one *Robin Trickſter* a *Turn-coat Scrivener*, and *Maiſter Harry Madrigall* of St. *John's* Pariſh, afterwards Clerk of Her Grace's Guards. Theſe Two, as it was generally thought, held private Intelligence with *Mary* late Queen of *Scots*, and were entirely devoted to Her and Her young Son *James*; who they affirmed had a better Title to the Crown than Her Highneſs. They perſwaded me that Her Highneſs was an Enemy to God's Church. That *Philip* King of *Spain*, when he had reduced his Rebellious Subjects, whom our Queen had takan into Her Protection, would lend his Troops to be employed againſt Her Majeſty: That *Mary* Queen of *Scots* would by the Help of *France* (where She had great Power) prepare an Army to be ſent to *Scotland*, and from thence invade *England*. That the Queen's Grace ſhould be Depoſed, and Her beſt Friends deſtroyed, eſpecially the Lord *Burleigh*, the Earl of *Leiceſter*, General for Her Highneſs in *Holland*, and Sir *Francis Walſingham*. They told me, They had both worked themſelves into Her Majeſty's Service, and adviſed me to do the ſame; which I accordingly did, with their Aſſiſtance, in the way of my own Profeſſion.

But

But alas! I ſoon neglected my Calling as a Lawyer, to engage in Affairs of State, which was the Third Cauſe of my Misfortunes. Being employed to engroſs an Act of Parliament againſt *Popery*, I inſerted a Clauſe which involved the *Proteſtants* in the ſame Guilt and Penalty with the *Papiſts*. Then I endeavoured to ſet up an *Inquiſition* againſt the *Calviniſts*, as the Duke of *Alva* has lately done in *Flanders*, which was promoted by Direction from the Queen of *Scots* Her Abettors, in order to divide the *Proteſtants* among themſelves.

I ſhall not take up your Time with recounting the ſeveral Attempts I made for the Advancement of *Popery*, and of the Intereſts of *Mary* late Queen of *Scots*, and Her Son *James*. I therefore proceed to the Fourth Cauſe of my Misfortunes, I mean, the Breach of that Commandment which forbids us to *bear falſe Witneſs againſt our Neighbours*.

Sir *Nicholas Bacon*, whom his Enemies allow to be the greateſt Lawyer, ableſt Stateſman, and trueſt Lover of his Prince and Country of any in his Age; Sir *Philip Sidney*, that Noble Patron as well as Maſter of Wit and Learning; a Perſonage who ſeems born for Courts, and the Management of the greateſt Affairs: My Lord Admiral *Howard*, who gave the Enemy that famous Defeat at Sea, which they have never ſince been able to recover; and another Lord of the Council, were the chief Enemies to the Queen of *Scots*, and had perform'd the moſt eminent Services to the Kingdom. This my two Confederates *wotted* well enough; and thereafter perſwaded me to forge an Accuſation againſt them of High Treaſon. It is well known how ſharp and Univerſal the Proſecution was, ſo that if their Innocence had not appeared unblemiſhed in every Particular, they might probably have loſt their Heads: And now my own Sufferings have brought me to a true Senſe of my Crimes, I am heartily glad that wicked Deſign did not ſucceed.

I now come to the laſt and greateſt Cauſe of my preſent Calamity, which is, my Ingratitude to thoſe that raiſed me.

My two Companions and I, in order to purſue our Deſigns, began to inſinuate our ſelves into the good liking of Sir *William Cecil*, L. *Burleigh*, who tho' he well enough underſtood our Principles, yet obſerving us to be Men of ſome Dexterity, and believing the ſolemn Proteſtations we made him, was prevailed with, upon Promiſes of our Amendment, to pardon our paſt Offences, and take us into ſome Degree of Favour. We then profeſſed the greateſt Zeal for the Service of Her Highneſs, but ſtill continued our Correſpondence with the Queen of *Scots* by the means of a *Clerk* to *Robin* the *Scrivener*. At home we made our Party ſo ſtrong, that we attempted by the help of a certain *Tire-woman*, to bring the L. *Burleigh*, the E. of *Leiceſter*, and ſome others into Diſgrace with Her Highneſs, by all the ill Offices and Repreſentations that Calumny could ſuggeſt. Nay, we began to hope we had made ſome Impreſſion: Which fed our Vanity to ſuch a Degree, that I confeſs, I flatter'd my ſelf with nothing leſs than immediately ſucceeding Sir *Tho. Bromley*; *Jemblably* the *Scrivener* had fixed his hopes on my L. *Burleigh*'s Staff; and *Harry Madrigall* expected to come into the Place of Sir *Francis Walſington*. But Her Grace immediately ſaw thro' the Deſign: The whole Kingdom began to reſent our Practices with the utmoſt Indignity: The Parliament publickly aſſerted the Merit of thoſe great Men; and we were all diſcarded with the juſt Marks of Ignominy, to the Satisfaction of all good Subjects.

What hath happened ſince, I need not repeat. I acknowledge my ſelf juſtly doomed to the Execution of that Sentence pronounc'd againſt me. I muſt now leave you all, tho' notwithſtanding my many Infirmities, I might by the Courſe of Nature have held out Three Years longer. May Her Majeſty's Grace long Live and Reign. *Amen.* And I wiſh that every Body, but eſpecially my Accomplices, of whom I ſee ſeveral here before me, would take Warning by my Example.

When he had thus finiſhed his Speech, he was immediately *TURNED OFF*, in the Preſence of above Five Hundred Spectators, both *Engliſh* and *Scotch*, who *for the Generality* were very well pleaſed to ſee him make ſo good an *EXIT*.